

SUNDAY, April 21, 2024

WORSHIP NOTES

Worship Services Online

Click [here](#) to go to Covenant's Facebook page (or copy this link and paste it into your browser: <https://www.facebook.com/Covenant-CRC-520064914738965/>). Then click on the "Videos" section and watch for the live video to show shortly before 10:00 AM. You can also watch a recorded version of the service after it is over.

Sunday Morning Worship

During this season of Eastertide, Pastor Joel will be leading us through the book of Ephesians. Here is a link to a [mobile-friendly worship guide](#).

Sunday Evening Vespers

Our Sunday evening gatherings at 6:00 PM typically follow the pattern of Vespers, or Evening Prayer, in which we spend time in prayer, praise, silence, and meditation, using prayers and litanies from the *Book of Common Prayer*. This evening, we will also take time to share our joys and concerns and offer those to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Council Nominees

Last Sunday, we voted to approve nominees for elder and deacon and this Sunday, **April 21**, during our morning worship service, we will draw names of 3 elders and 3 deacons who will serve in the coming years. Nick Breems' name was inadvertently left off the nomination slate for new elders that has been shared with the congregation these past weeks and his name also did not appear on the congregation's approval ballot. With apologies to Nick and to the congregation, and given that Nick has served well as an elder in the past, the Council's Executive Committee is moving his name to the next step, which is the drawing of names by lot on April 21. If you have questions, contact Cal Jongsma, Jeri Schelhaas, or another Executive Committee member. Thanks to all who were willing to let their name stand.

Edifying Engagement

After our morning service on Sunday, **April 21**, Justin Bailey, Tom Clark, Brad Hickey, and Mike Janssen will share their blessings from a wonderful visit with Richard Mouw, an exemplary philosopher and disciple. Along with six other professors at Dordt, our members spent several days with Dr. Mouw, and it was a memorable spiritual experience. Our members will share in the format we call "Edifying Engagement," which takes place about ten minutes after morning worship. They will also have time for questions and answers. We encourage you to participate.



Pastoral Group Dinners

Today, **April 21**, the **Christians/Van Schouwen** pastoral group will gather to enjoy fellowship and a meal together at 12:00 PM in the fellowship hall to close out this spring season of dinners. Visitors and college students are welcome to join them!

50th Anniversary Intergenerational Orchestra

We would like to put together an intergenerational orchestra to play during our 50th Anniversary worship service on Sunday, **April 28**. All strings players from 5th grade-adult are invited to participate. Rehearsals will be at 4:00 PM Sunday, **April 21**, and 8:45 AM on Sunday, **April 28**. Please email Rebecca De Vries (rebecca.ann.devries@gmail.com) if you plan to participate. You can contact Jill Friend if you have any questions: jfriend@siouxcenterchristian.com.

May Courier

Do you have something to include in the May Courier? If so, please send it to the church office by Monday, **April 22**.

Cadets End of the Year Picnic

The Cadets end of the year picnic is on Wednesday, **April 24**. This year we will be meeting at the Sioux Center Christian School gym and families are invited. A meal will start at 6:00 PM and the auction will start at 7:00 PM. Current 3rd graders and their parents are also invited to attend.

Church Education Schedule

Because of the busyness of the 50th Anniversary weekend and to allow our youth to participate in the orchestra, we will not have Sunday School, Catechism, or Covenant Sunday Morning on Sunday, **April 28**.

50th Anniversary Celebration Weekend

We've been celebrating all year, but next weekend is our culminating anniversary weekend and we hope you will be part of the celebration! Here is what's on the calendar for the weekend:

- Friday, **April 26**, 6:00 PM: If you RSVP'd for our Celebration Dinner, join us at 6:00 PM for good food, fellowship, and entertainment. (Don't forget your payment for the meal - \$20/plate.)
- Saturday, **April 27**, 9:30 AM: All are welcome to gather at the Fruited Plain for an informal coffee time with charter members and former pastors who may be around that weekend.
- Sunday, **April 28**, 10:00 AM: We gather to worship and celebrate together! Join us in worship as we praise God for 50 years of worshipping together as a church family.
- Sunday, **April 28**, 6:00 PM: Our evening gathering will be a time to hear from our former pastors as they share their memories and reflections.

50th Anniversary Book

Please check your mailbox for an order form to purchase a copy of Covenant's 50th Anniversary book. Orders will be due by Sunday, **April 28**, so don't procrastinate! There will be a box for the order forms and payment on the back table and at the dinner on Friday, **April 26**.

Request for Bricks!

Were you a part of the great brick washing and moving 25 years ago at our last sanctuary remodel? Did you get to take one home? If you did, look closely at the brick and you will see that it says "Return in 2024." It also quotes Ephesians 4:12: "to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up." On **May 5**, Pastor Joel will be preaching on this passage and we would love to have your bricks returned and displayed on that Sunday. Can you help us out?

Church Spring Cleaning

Our church clean-up day is on **May 11** at 9:00 AM. Your deacon will be in contact with you about what area of the church your pastoral group will take care of. Coffee, juice, bars, and fellowship provided!

No Cash and Carry!

There are 2 plants in our church that need a new home. They are the Hibiscus tree in the fellowship hall and the Norfolk Island Pine by the main entrance. If you want either of them, feel free to take them home! *-The Building Committee*

Covenant Email List

Do you worship regularly at Covenant and want to be added to our church email list to get all the news and updates? Email the church office and we'll add you! (covenant@mtcnet.net)

Mozart Requiem

The Sioux County Oratorio Chorus, joined by Northwestern College's A Cappella Choir, will be presenting Mozart's *Requiem!* Under the direction of Dr. Thomas Holm, and featuring orchestra and professional soloists, the concert is on Saturday, **April 27** at 7:30 PM in Christ Chapel at Northwestern College. Tickets for adults are \$15 in advance/\$20 at the door and \$5 for students. Advance tickets can be purchased at the Dordt music office, Evie's Hallmark, or from a Covenant oratorio singer (Cal Jongsma, Tammy Lief, Sara & Ben Ploegstra, Amanda Vande Brake, Dennis Vander Plaats).

Bible League Spring Salad Luncheon

Plan to attend Bible League's Spring Salad Luncheon with your friends on Monday, **May 6** at the Ireton Christian Reformed Church (301 Maple Street). Please bring one salad for every four ladies in your group. The luncheon begins at 11:30 AM and the featured speaker is Lindsay Millard of Joie Floral Design in Orange City. She is a Master Gardener and will share ideas for growing your garden/plants. A freewill donation will be received for Bible League International; every \$5 raised puts a Bible in the hands of someone thirsty for God's Word!

Praying for Our Local Congregations

This week, please pray for God's blessing on the Bethel CRC congregation and the ministry of Pastor John Lee.

Last week's offering

General Fund: \$3,966.00

Christian Education Fund: \$695.00

Giving at Covenant

There are a variety of ways to give at Covenant! To give online, click [here](#). You can also give by leaving your offering in the boxes located at the entrances, mailing a check to church, paying via online bill pay at your bank, or by ACH Bank Transfer. Just a reminder, all cash/checks will be used as needed unless designated. Contact your deacon with any questions.

Helpful Links:

- The Bulletin Announcements and a link to Sunday's bulletin and liturgy are posted [here](#).
- The Community Activities (Blue) Sheet is posted [here](#).
- Mission & Ministry News: The Groenewold-Van Dyks' latest newsletter is [here](#). The Maletoungous' latest newsletter is [here](#) and a newsletter from the Ribbens is [here](#). An update from Pastor Gianni Gracia in Miami is [here](#). ReFrame Ministry's April prayer requests are [here](#).

Sunday Servant Scheduling:

If you are unable to serve on your assigned day, please find your own replacement. Thank you.

	TODAY	NEXT SUNDAY, April 28
Greeters	AM: Isabel C, Dave S, Marv W	
Ushers	AM: Rebecca DS, Joan MC, Kurt V	
Coffee	Jenni B, Rin G, Jason H, Andy L, Ron O	
Subs	Pat C, Rob H, Mark H, Lee R, Beth VB, Sharon V	
Sound/Projection	Jeff P ♦ James R	Dennis DJ ♦ Terry F
Nursery	AM: Dave & Emily K, Tricia K	AM: James & Courtney R, Jason & Sara H

Encouraging our Missionaries

Got a minute? Send one of our missionaries a note of encouragement by email!

Gianni & Georgina Gracia
giannigracia@yahoo.com

Sos & Kara Maletoungou
smaletoungou@acsi.org

Mike & Megan Ribbens
mribbens@gmail.com

Ben & Tricia Groenewold Van Dyk
tvandyk@crncpartners.org

OUR CHURCH FAMILY



Happy Birthday this Week

Nathan Maletoungou, Stella Ribbens, Eden Hawley, Alejandro Castelan

THIS WEEK AT COVENANT

Sunday, 21st	9:00 AM	Sunday School, Catechism, Covenant Sunday Morning
	10:00 AM	Morning Worship
	11:30 AM	Edifying Engagement
	12:00 PM	Christians/Van Schouwen Pastoral Group Dinner
	4:00 PM	Intergenerational Orchestra Rehearsal
	6:00 PM	Vespers
	7:15 PM	Sunday Evening Bible Study
Monday	7:00 PM	Full Council Meeting
Wednesday	10:00 AM	Prayer Group
	6:00 PM	Cadet End of the Year Picnic (at SCCS gym)
	7:00 PM	GEMS Counselor Meeting
	7:00 PM	Youth Group (at Dordt Theatre Building)
Friday	6:00 PM	50 th Anniversary Celebration Dinner
Sunday, 28th	8:45 AM	Intergenerational Orchestra Rehearsal
	10:00 AM	50 th Anniversary Celebration Worship
	6:00 PM	Evening Gathering with former Covenant Pastors